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Rural District of Maidstone

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Annual Report for the Year, 1968

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE  
RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F. H. M. DUMMER  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



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MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee

(As at 1st January, 1968)

Chairman

Mr. J.L. Short

Vice-Chairman

Mr. T.W. Kemsley

Members

Col. H.M. Allfrey  
Mr. K.C. Banks  
Dr. R.D. Bulbrook  
Mr. P.A.E. Devenish  
Mr. P.G. Evenden  
Mr. R.A. Fermor  
Mr. A.E. Fullagar

Mr. D.V. Gladdish  
Mr. W.F. Hardy  
Mrs. H.A. Ireland Blackburne  
Mr. E.E.L. Kimber  
Mr. P. Morphett  
Mr. C.S. Pipe  
Mr. T.J. Thompson

Public Health Officers of the Rural District Council :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Dr. F.H.M. Dummer,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Dr. J.T. Cecil,  
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

G.W. White,  
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods, and  
Smoke Inspectors' Certificate.

FIRST ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR : F.O. Elliott,

M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods.

SECOND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR : J. Barrow,

M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods.  
(Resigned 31/3/68)

SECOND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: A.G. Sabin,

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of  
Meat and Other Foods.  
(Commenced 13/5/68)

STUDENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

I.R. Russell.

CLEANSING FOREMAN :

A.E. Wallace.

RODENT OPERATOR :

T. Curties.

CLERKS TO THE DEPARTMENT :

Miss D. Fuller.  
Miss A.M. Humphrey.

SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF

HEALTH : Miss H. Wood.





RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

Central Health Department,  
13, Tonbridge Road,  
Maidstone.

Public Health Department,  
13A, London Road,  
Maidstone.

Telephone : Maidstone 54072

Telephone : Maidstone 56871

To: The Chairman and Members of Maidstone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twelfth Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District of Maidstone.

Once again Maidstone Rural District shows in its essential indices for good health, a promising picture. The birth rate of your District is the highest of any of the surrounding areas, at 23.2 per thousand of the population, and exceeds the rates of both the County of Kent and England and Wales.

The death rate at 9.92 is well below the County and the country as a whole. The infant mortality rate, although higher than last year, is distinctly under the national figure.

The unique feature of the report is that this year no death has been primarily related to tuberculosis.

After considering those very encouraging indices, one unfortunately has to turn immediately to a subject which shows the reverse of the coin, namely cancer. In 1968 more deaths occurred from this cause than ever before noted in your District. In 1968 the number of people dying of cancer was 62, which is four more than last year, and three in excess of the previous highest total. Although the main distribution of cancer mortality once again remains in the higher age groups, there has been an incursion, for the first time, into the younger age groups, even at the years 25-34. There has also been an increase in the number of women dying of cancer of the breast.

In the pages which follow this prefatory letter, you will read of the work of the Public Health Department, and of the problems which have arisen during the year. The Cleansing Services, from their very nature, would appear to give rise to a considerable amount of administrative worry and the Public Health Department has been hard put to it to solve the many problems which have arisen during the year. The extension of the paper sack system has helped to alleviate some of our difficulties and I think the ratepayers of Maidstone R.D.C. are, as a body, well satisfied with this progressive extension of the essential services.





This is a time of deep concern in Local Government and in the last twelve months we have been bombarded with reports suggesting reforms of all kinds, some of which directly relate to local sanitary districts and others which have only an indirect interest to us. This time of change brings its anxieties and although this Report is written before the publication of the findings of the Royal Commission on Local Government, we do anticipate that radical changes are undoubtedly in store for us. It has always been our endeavour to ensure that the services for which we are at present responsible should be of the highest standard that can be attained, and this ideal has always been in the minds of the Members of the Public Health Committee in arriving at their policies.

I would like to take the opportunity in this Report of thanking Mr. G.W. White, the Senior Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the Public Health Department, for their loyal and co-operative work throughout the year, and to express my thanks also to all officers of the Council who have assisted in the work of the Department and helped in the smooth running of carrying out the policies of your Council.

In all respects the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and of the Council have given us their full support in our endeavours, and the knowledge of this co-operation has helped us very much.

I have the Honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F.H.M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

16th May, 1969



# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Area (in acres) .. .. .  | 34,487   |
| Estimated resident population (1968) .. ..   | 27,080   |
| Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books)<br>at the end of 1968 .. .. . | 9,311    |
| Rateable value at the end of 1968 .. .. .  | £921,441 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .  | £3,690   |

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## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

|  | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Live Births .. .. .                                    | 293         | 289           | 582          |
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..                | crude       |               | 21.49        |
|  | corrected   |               | 23.20        |
| Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births |             |               | 4.81         |

|   | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Stillbirths .. .. .                             | 2           | 3             | 5            |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still births |             |               | 8.51         |
| Total live and still births .. .. .             | 295         | 292           | 587          |

|  | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) ..   | 6           | 2             | 8            |
| Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births  |             |               | 13.74        |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000<br>legitimate live births   |             |               | 12.63        |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000<br>illegitimate live births   |             |               | 35.71        |
| Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks<br>per 1,000 total live births)                                     |             |               | 12.02        |
| Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week<br>per 1,000 total live births)                                |             |               | 12.02        |
| Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths<br>under 1 week combined per<br>1,000 total live and stillbirths) |             |               | 20.67        |
| Maternal mortality (including abortion) .. ..  |             |               | -            |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ..   |             |               | -            |

|  | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Deaths .. .. .                         | 165         | 159           | 324          |
| Death rate per 1,000 population .. ..  | crude       |               | 11.96        |
|  | corrected   |               | 9.92         |
| Death rate for England and Wales .. .. |             |               | 11.9         |





## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### School Health Service

The School Health Service with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, are administered by the Kent County Council and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

### Hospitals

The general hospitals in the area are now administered by one Central Kent Hospital Management Committee, and the former Preston Hall Hospital Management Committee has been merged in that body. There are, in addition, separate Management Committees for Oakwood Hospital and Leybourne Grange Hospital.

The hospitals in general use are Linton Hospital, the West Kent General Hospital, Fant Lane Hospital, and the Kent County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital and the hospitals covered by the Tunbridge Wells Group including, particularly, Pembury Hospital and the Kent & Sussex Hospital at Tunbridge Wells.

There is now no infectious diseases hospital in this area, and cases in the meantime have to be sent primarily to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, which entails a fairly long journey. Although representation has been made to the Regional Hospital Board on this question, there is very little likelihood of improved facilities for infectious diseases being available for this area before the new district hospital is built in the Maidstone area. This will, it is understood, include a wing for infectious diseases.

Since the publication by the Ministry of Health in 1962 of "A Hospital Plan for England and Wales", many discussions have taken place on local requirements and at the present time the whole subject is under continuous review. It has, however, been decided to support the Minister of Health's proposal that the site of the new district hospital should be Preston Hall.

In order to co-ordinate local authority interest in our hospitals a joint committee consisting of Members from Maidstone Borough Council, Hollingbourn Rural District Council, Maidstone Rural District Council, and Malling Rural District Council has been set up. Following discussions with the Regional Hospital Board in June, 1968, we understand that the date for the building of the new hospital is likely to be 1978/80, although many financial considerations govern this proposal.

### Domestic Help Service

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for aged and disabled patients and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalisation.





# INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

## ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

| DISEASE               | Under<br>1 | 1-2 | 3-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25-45 | 46-65 | 66 &<br>over | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Measles               | 4          | 13  | 25  | 19  | 1     | 1     | -     | -     | -            | 63    |
| Dysentery             | -          | 1   | -   | -   | 2     | -     | -     | -     | -            | 3     |
| Scarlet fever         | -          | -   | -   | 2   | 1     | 1     | -     | -     | -            | 4     |
| Whooping cough        | 3          | 4   | 2   | 3   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | 12    |
| Infective jaundice    | -          | -   | -   | 1   | -     | -     | 1     | -     | -            | 2     |
| Diphtheria            | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Tetanus               | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Encephalitis          | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Poliomyelitis         | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Leptospirosis         | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Paratyphoid fever     | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Typhoid fever         | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Food poisoning        | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | 2     | -            | 2     |
| Malaria               | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -            | -     |
| Puerperal pyrexia     | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | 2     | -     | -            | 2     |
| Erysipelas            | -          | -   | -   | -   | -     | -     | -     | 1     | -            | 1     |
| TOTALS                | 7          | 18  | 27  | 25  | 4     | 2     | 3     | 3     | -            | 89    |

1968 was a year of low incidence of infectious disease, the number of cases of measles being only one-sixth of the notifications of the previous year.

There was no unusual outbreak of disease, and once again no cases of smallpox, poliomyelitis or diphtheria occurred.



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

| DISEASE               | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTALS        |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------------|
| Measles               | -       | 2        | 1     | 1     | -   | 4    | 4    | 3      | 2         | 3       | 11       | 32       | 63            |
| Dysentery             | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | 1      | -         | 2       | -        | -        | 3             |
| Scarlet fever         | -       | -        | -     | 2     | -   | 1    | -    | 1      | -         | -       | -        | -        | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Whooping cough        | 2       | 2        | -     | 3     | -   | 1    | 1    | -      | 1         | 2       | -        | -        | 12            |
| Infective jaundice    | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | 1       | -        | 1        | 2             |
| Diphtheria            | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Tetanus               | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Encephalitis          | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Acute poliomyelitis   | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Leptospirosis         | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Paratyphoid fever     | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Typhoid fever         | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Food poisoning        | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | 1      | 1         | -       | -        | -        | 2             |
| Malaria               | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | -         | -       | -        | -        | -             |
| Puerperal pyrexia     | 1       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | -      | 1         | -       | -        | -        | 2             |
| Erysipelas            | -       | -        | -     | -     | -   | -    | -    | 1      | -         | -       | -        | -        | 1             |
| -                     |         |          |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          |               |
| TOTALS                | 3       | 4        | 1     | 6     | -   | 6    | 5    | 7      | 5         | 8       | 11       | 33       | 89            |





# IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION, 1968

The following table shows the figures for 1968 based on the return sent to the Department of Health and Social Security.

| Year of Birth | Primary        |                    |          |         |         |                | Reinforcing    |                    |          |         |         |                |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|               | Triple Antigen | Diphtheria Tetanus | Smallpox | Tetanus | Measles | Polio-myelitis | Triple Antigen | Diphtheria Tetanus | Smallpox | Tetanus | Measles | Polio-myelitis |
| 1968          | 301            | 1                  |          |         | 1       | 165            | -              | -                  |          |         |         |                |
| 1967          | 289            | 2                  | )        | 2       | 47      | 491            | 16             | 4                  |          | 1       |         |                |
| 1966          | 8              | -                  | ) 422    |         | 64      | 39             | 175            | 79                 |          |         |         |                |
| 1965          | 3              | -                  | )        | 1       | 60      | 15             | 75             | 31                 |          |         |         |                |
| 1964          | 2              | -                  |          |         | 77      | 2              | 9              | 25                 |          |         |         | 38             |
| 1961 - 1963   | -              | -                  |          | 6       | 226     | 4              | 50             | 435                | )        | 13      |         | 432            |
| 1952 - 1960   | 1              | -                  |          | 49      | 10      | -              | 2              | 10                 | ) 3      | 18      |         | -              |
| TOTAL         | 604            | 3                  | 422      | 58      | 485     | 716            | 328            | 584                | 3        | 32      |         | 470            |



## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION (Cont'd.)

The Tables for immunisation this year (shown on the previous page) follow a different pattern from the past, but I think are an improvement on previous years in that the whole of the picture of immunisation and vaccination can be seen on a simple comparative basis.

The poliomyelitis vaccination figures have increased very considerably this year, the combined primary and reinforcing doses amounting to 1,186 as compared with 858 in 1967.

The triple antigen injections have also increased from 848 in 1967, to 932 in 1968.

This year has seen for the first time immunisation against measles. You will see from the Table that this latter project has got off to a good start, and already we have experienced a decrease in the incidence of measles in your district.

## FOOD POISONING

During 1968 two cases of food poisoning were formally notified. One further case was otherwise ascertained. In all two families were involved.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was not necessary during the year to issue any restrictive Notices under these Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951

It was not found necessary during the year to take action under Section 47 of the above Regulations.



# TUBERCULOSIS

I am indebted to Dr. D.L. Pugh, the Consultant Chest Physician, for the following details of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures related to the area of the Chest Clinic, which corresponds with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

- (a) Number of contacts seen during 1968, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis .. .. 163
- (b) Number of contacts, seen during 1968, of cases notified prior to 1968 .. .. 455
- (c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis Nil
- (d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis Nil

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| AGE GROUPS  | NEW CASES |   |               |   | DEATHS    |   |               |   |
|-------------|-----------|---|---------------|---|-----------|---|---------------|---|
|             | Pulmonary |   | Non-pulmonary |   | Pulmonary |   | Non-pulmonary |   |
|             | M         | F | M             | F | M         | F | M             | F |
| 0 - 1       | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 2 - 4       | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 5 - 14      | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 15 - 24     | -         | - | 2             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 25 - 34     | -         | 1 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 35 - 44     | 1         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 45 - 54     | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 55 - 64     | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 65 and over | -         | - | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| TOTALS      | 1         | 1 | 2             | - | -         | - | -             | - |

This table once again indicates a very satisfactory state of affairs, emphasized by the fact that no deaths occurred due to tuberculosis. The work of tracing contacts was, however, maintained at a high level.





# CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer in the Maidstone Rural District during the past ten years is given below :-

|      |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|
| 1959 | .. | .. | .. | 47 |
| 1960 | .. | .. | .. | 51 |
| 1961 | .. | .. | .. | 52 |
| 1962 | .. | .. | .. | 45 |
| 1963 | .. | .. | .. | 49 |
| 1964 | .. | .. | .. | 50 |
| 1965 | .. | .. | .. | 54 |
| 1966 | .. | .. | .. | 59 |
| 1967 | .. | .. | .. | 58 |
| 1968 | .. | .. | .. | 62 |

Deaths from cancer in 1968, distributed according to sites :-

| Site                     | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Cancer of stomach        | 1    | 3      | 4     |
| Cancer of lung, bronchus | 17   | -      | 17    |
| Cancer of breast         | -    | 9      | 9     |
| Cancer of uterus         | -    | 1      | 1     |
| Other sites              | 18   | 13     | 31    |
| TOTALS                   | 36   | 26     | 62    |

Deaths from cancer in 1968, distributed according to age groups :-

| Age Groups  | Male | Female |
|-------------|------|--------|
| 0 - 4       | -    | -      |
| 5 - 14      | -    | -      |
| 15 - 24     | -    | -      |
| 25 - 34     | -    | 1      |
| 35 - 44     | 1    | 1      |
| 45 - 54     | 2    | -      |
| 55 - 64     | 8    | 7      |
| 65 - 74     | 13   | 4      |
| 75 and over | 12   | 13     |
| TOTALS      | 36   | 26     |



# INFANT MORTALITY, 1968

| CAUSE OF DEATH               | Under 1 week | 1 - 2 weeks | 2 - 3 weeks | 3 - 4 weeks | Total under 4 weeks | 4 weeks and under 3 months | 3 - 6 months | 7 - 9 months | 10 - 12 months | Total deaths under 1 year |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Congenital abnormality       | 1            | -           | -           | -           | 1                   | -                          | -            | -            | -              | 1                         |
| Hyaline membrane disease     | 1            | 1           | -           | -           | 2                   | -                          | -            | -            | -              | 2                         |
| Prematurity                  | 2            | -           | -           | -           | 2                   | -                          | -            | -            | -              | 2                         |
| Incomplete aeration of lungs | 1            | -           | -           | -           | 1                   | -                          | -            | -            | -              | 1                         |
| Toxaemia                     | -            | -           | -           | -           | -                   | 1                          | -            | -            | -              | 1                         |
| TOTALS                       | 5            | 1           | -           | -           | 6                   | 1                          | -            | -            | -              | 7                         |

In 1967 the infantile mortality rate was the lowest recorded in your district at 5.22 per thousand live births. This year the figure has risen to 13.74 but, as has been explained in previous Reports, a very small difference in the global figure accounts for a considerable disproportion in the rates. The 1968 rate is still considerably below that of England and Wales at 18.0.

One of the features of infantile mortality last year was the very short life span of these infants, many of which died within hours or days of birth, and in many cases their deaths were associated with prematurity. At least four of the total of deaths were unavoidable.

The rate is still a very good one and indicates, as in previous years, the high standard of ante-natal care which is being exercised in your District.





TOTAL DEATHS, 1968

| Cause  | Male | Female |
|--|------|--------|
| 1. Cholera   | -    | -      |
| 2. Typhoid fever   | -    | -      |
| 3. Bacillary dysentery and amoebiasis                    | -    | -      |
| 4. Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases               | -    | -      |
| 5. Tuberculosis of respiratory system                    | -    | -      |
| 6. Other tuberculosis, including late effects            | -    | -      |
| 7. Plague  | -    | -      |
| 8. Diphtheria  | -    | -      |
| 9. Whooping cough  | -    | -      |
| 10. Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever          | -    | -      |
| 11. Meningococcal infection                              | -    | -      |
| 12. Acute poliomyelitis                                  | -    | -      |
| 13. Smallpox   | -    | -      |
| 14. Typhus and other rickettsioses                       | -    | -      |
| 15. Malaria  | -    | -      |
| 16. Syphilis and its sequelae                            | -    | -      |
| 17. All other infective and parasitic diseases           | -    | -      |
| 18. Malignant neoplasm, stomach                          | 1    | 3      |
| 19. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus                   | 17   | -      |
| 20. Malignant neoplasm, breast                           | -    | 9      |
| 21. Malignant neoplasm, uterus                           | -    | 1      |
| 22. Leukaemia  | -    | -      |
| 23. Other malignant neoplasms                            | 18   | 13     |
| 24. Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature | -    | 1      |
| 25. Diabetes mellitus                                    | -    | 3      |
| 26. Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency        | -    | -      |
| 27. Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases  | 1    | -      |
| 28. Anaemias   | -    | -      |
| 29. Other diseases of blood and blood-forming organs     | -    | -      |
| 30. Mental disorders                                     | -    | -      |
| 31. Meningitis   | -    | -      |
| 32. Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs    | 6    | 2      |
|  | 43   | 32     |

/ Cont'd. ....



TOTAL DEATHS, 1968 (Cont'd.)

| Cause  | Male | Female |
|--|------|--------|
|  | 43   | 32     |
| 33. Active rheumatic fever   | -    | -      |
| 34. Chronic rheumatic heart disease  | -    | 3      |
| 35. Hypertensive disease   | 4    | 3      |
| 36. Ischaemic heart disease  | 31   | 31     |
| 37. Other forms of heart disease   | 7    | 8      |
| 38. Cerebrovascular disease  | 24   | 56     |
| 39. Other diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 6    | 2      |
| 40. Influenza  | 4    | 2      |
| 41. Pneumonia  | 7    | 7      |
| 42. Bronchitis and emphysema   | 20   | 6      |
| 43. Asthma   | 1    | -      |
| 44. Other diseases of the respiratory system                                   | -    | -      |
| 45. Peptic ulcer   | 2    | 2      |
| 46. Appendicitis   | -    | -      |
| 47. Intestinal obstruction and hernia  | -    | -      |
| 48. Cirrhosis of liver   | 1    | -      |
| 49. Other diseases of the digestive system                                     | 1    | 2      |
| 50. Nephritis and nephrosis  | -    | -      |
| 51. Hyperplasia of prostate  | 1    | -      |
| 52. Other diseases of genito-urinary system                                    | 1    | 1      |
| 53. Abortion   | -    | -      |
| 54. Other complications of pregnancy,<br>childbirth and puerperium             | -    | -      |
| 55. Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous<br>tissue                            | 1    | -      |
| 56. Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system<br>and connective tissue           | -    | -      |
| 57. Congenital anomalies   | -    | -      |
| 58. Birth injury, difficult labour, and other<br>anoxic and hypoxic conditions | 2    | -      |
| 59. Other causes of perinatal mortality  | 2    | 2      |
| 60. Symptoms and ill-defined conditions  | 1    | 2      |
| 61. Motor vehicle accidents  | 1    | -      |
| 62. All other accidents  | 4    | -      |
| 63. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries  | 1    | -      |
| 64. All other external causes  | -    | -      |
|  | 165  | 159    |



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

The Senior Public Health Inspector has provided the following report on details of work which come under his direct day to day control.

The work of the department in the year under report has, similarly to previous years, been concerned mainly with the routine aspects of preventive environmental health. Some disruption of the normal routine occurred with the resignation of one Public Health Inspector and the subsequent hiatus preceding the appointment of a replacement and his familiarization with the area.

It has been noticed that enquiries from the general public have been many and varied, seeking advice on subjects sometimes only remotely connected with public health.

The one exceptional occurrence taking place during this particular year was the extensive flooding affecting portions of the Rural District. Further comment on this and other individual aspects of departmental work are made under their respective headings.





## WATER SUPPLIES

There were no complaints concerning the quality of water supply during the year 1968 and there is every indication that the supply has been satisfactory in quantity. As in previous years, there still remains a small number of properties not connected to a mains supply provided by the Mid Kent Water Company or the Maidstone Waterworks Company. In each instance this is due entirely to the isolated nature of the properties concerned.

Sampling of water supply to the area continues to be carried out as a routine measure by the Water Companies involved, samples being obtained at the source of supply and point of distribution. All sources of supply are outside the Maidstone Rural District with the exception of the East Farleigh Pumping Station. Samples are being taken of the raw water and water following treatment prior to supply, these samples being submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analyses. A typical result from a chemical analysis is as follows :-

### Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

|                                       |                      |    |    |              |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----|----|--------------|
| Solids in Solution                    | (Dried at 180°C)     | .. | .. | 532          |
| Solids in Solution                    | after ignition       | .. | .. | 421          |
| Chlorides as Chlorine                 | .. ..                | .. | .. | 46           |
| Carbonate Hardness                    | as CaCO <sub>3</sub> | .. | .. | 210          |
| Non-Carbonate Hardness                | as CaCO <sub>3</sub> | .. | .. | 142          |
| Total Hardness                        | as CaCO <sub>3</sub> | .. | .. | 352          |
| Total Alkalinity                      | as CaCO <sub>3</sub> | .. | .. | 210          |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen                   | .. ..                | .. | .. | 0.02         |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen                   | .. ..                | .. | .. | Not detected |
| Nitrate Nitrogen                      | .. ..                | .. | .. | 9.0          |
| Nitrite Nitrogen                      | .. ..                | .. | .. | Not detected |
| Oxygen Absorbed in 15 minutes at 27°C | ..                   | .. | .. | 0.08         |
| Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C    | ..                   | .. | .. | 0.12         |
| Toxic Metals                          | .. ..                | .. | .. | Not detected |
| Residual Chlorine - Free              | .. ..                | .. | .. | Not detected |
| Iron                                  | .. ..                | .. | .. | 0.07         |

Opinion : The water is normal and satisfactory for a public supply and fit for domestic uses.

During the September flood emergency samples of the domestic water supply were submitted by the department for bacteriological and chemical analysis. In each instance the laboratory reports indicated a satisfactory water supply.



Examination of Water Supplies during the year :-

|                                   | Bacteriological Examination |              |                  | Chemical Examination |              |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------|
|                                   | No. of Samples              | Satisfactory | Not Satisfactory | No. of Samples       | Satisfactory | Not Satisfactory |
| Statutory supply undertakings     | 4                           | 4            | -                | 2                    | 2            | -                |
| Private sources pipe to dwellings | -                           | -            | -                | -                    | -            | -                |
| Other private sources             | -                           | -            | -                | -                    | -            | -                |





The following table, supplied by the Water Companies concerned, gives indication of (a) the number of dwelling houses and (b) the estimated number of the population supplied from public water mains :-

| Parish              | Houses<br>Supplied<br>(a) | Estimated<br>Population<br>(b) |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Barming             | 570                       | 1,625                          |
| Bearsted            | 1,639                     | 4,760                          |
| Boughton Monchelsea | 560                       | 1,520                          |
| Coxheath            | 1,033                     | 3,390                          |
| East Farleigh       | 437                       | 1,300                          |
| West Farleigh       | 163                       | 470                            |
| Hunton              | 185                       | 555                            |
| Linton              | 201                       | 540                            |
| Loose               | 698                       | 2,105                          |
| Marden              | 895                       | 2,570                          |
| Nettlestead         | 194                       | 735                            |
| Otham               | 124                       | 365                            |
| Staplehurst         | 1,441                     | 3,815                          |
| Teston              | 223                       | 675                            |
| Yalding             | 954                       | 2,655                          |



Information received from the Water Companies indicates that they have been involved in the laying of 3,553 yards of new water mains to additional properties within the area. Indication of the size of mains laid is contained in the following table :-

| Parish        | Yards | Size | Water Company                |
|---------------|-------|------|------------------------------|
| Barming       | 14    | 4"   | Maidstone Waterworks Company |
| "             | 146   | 6"   | " " "                        |
| Bearsted      | 5½    | 3"   | " " "                        |
| "             | 228   | 4"   | " " "                        |
| "             | 145   | 6"   | " " "                        |
| East Farleigh | 317   | 3"   | " " "                        |
| " "           | 210   | 4"   | " " "                        |
| " "           | 543   | 6"   | " " "                        |
| Linton        | 649   | 4"   | Mid Kent Water Company       |
| Marden        | 985   | 4"   | " " " "                      |
| Teston        | 72    | 3"   | " " " "                      |
| "             | 190   | 4"   | " " " "                      |

#### The Fluoride Content of Water Supplies

The fluoride content is negligible and is less than 0.1 parts per million.

#### Swimming Baths

Swimming baths for the use of school children are situated within the parishes of Linton, Loose, Marden and Staplehurst. In some instances the pools are also used by adults in the school holidays. Routine surveillance is maintained as a precautionary measure, but no particular problems arose during the year.



## REFUSE AND PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

This report is general to both services and follows the familiar pattern of recent years whereby difficulties in obtaining and retaining labour have been a constant problem. Once again the population of the district has risen considerably and, although our establishment of refuse collectors is 21, we have operated on a complement of 19, which I consider to be an achievement somewhat unique by present day standards. I would add, however, that extensions to the paper sack refuse collection system have been of assistance in this respect.

In giving a general outline of the situation, the following data are relevant :-

### Manpower

The establishment in connection with the Public Cleansing Services consists of 30 men employed as follows :-

21 men on refuse collection (19 men actually employed)  
1 tractor driver engaged on refuse tip  
8 men on cesspool emptying (5 men actually employed)

### Labour Turnover

|                                   | <u>1966</u> | <u>1967</u> | <u>1968</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Employed during the year          | 26          | 21          | 30          |
| Employees leaving during the year | 27          | 20          | 27          |
| <u>Holidays</u>                   | 233 days    | 286 days    | 267 days    |
| <u>Sickness</u>                   | 430 days    | 351 days    | 374 days    |
| <u>Absenteeism</u>                | 36 days     | 87 days     | 138 days    |

The total working days lost, for one reason or another, continues to be high and I am sure it will be appreciated that this places an almost intolerable burden on the services and produces considerable administrative difficulties.

### Abandoned Vehicles

Removal of abandoned vehicles was dealt with under the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1968. During the year 10 vehicles were dealt with involving the Council in an expense of £15. In the main this problem can be related to the itinerant traveller/scrap metal merchant illicitly dumping the unsaleable portions of vehicles by the roadside or in woodland.

### Civic Amenities Act, 1967

Under this legislation the local authority should afford facilities for the collection and disposal of bulky domestic, industrial and commercial refuse. During the year special collections from households produced an income of £46. 4. 0., charges only being made where it was considered to be absolutely essential. Disposal facilities for refuse from industrial and commercial concerns were afforded at the Laddingford Tip and, in this connection, an income of £1,167 was received.

Towards the end of the year the owners of the land which we lease required the Council to cease accepting trade waste from outside its administrative area. This means quite obviously that the income from this source will be considerably reduced.





Even though these facilities have been available to the general public, it is felt that in the very near future serious consideration must be given to the provision of bulk containers at various points within the Rural District where the public may deposit items of a bulky nature and, in addition, a specific and separate service to carry out collection from individual households if the problem of roadside dumping is to be reduced.

#### Refuse Disposal

Disposal of all types of refuse was carried out in the Laddingford area by the controlled tipping method. The appearance of the tip is satisfactory and effective control has been maintained by use of the 4-wheel drive Hough H.30 International Excavator. In an effort to eliminate possible nuisance arising from fires, arrangements were made for visits to be made to the tip over each weekend.

#### Cesspool Emptying

During the year a total of 8,455 loads were removed from cesspools in the area and under normal circumstances clearance was effected within 14 days of receiving a request from the public.

#### Flooding - Monday, 16th September to Friday, 20th September, 1968

During this period the parishes of Yalding, Bearsted and part of Otham were severely affected. The normal refuse and cleansing services, of necessity, were disrupted and, in fact, our own refuse tip at Laddingford was inaccessible which made it necessary for all refuse collected to be sent into Maidstone Borough Tovel Destructor. During this period the refuse vehicles were utilized for the collection and clearance of damaged furniture and furnishings, whilst the cesspool tankers were employed on an emergency basis to lower the level of overflowing cesspools, help in pumping out cellars and remove sewage from a fractured main sewer in the parish of Bearsted.

I think it fitting to place on record the willingness of the entire refuse and cleansing personnel, the public health inspectorate and the clerical staff of the department who all, without reserve, assisted in every possible way during the emergency.

#### Vehicles

Cleansing and refuse vehicles are garaged at the Coxheath Depot (with the exception of the 2 vans used by the Cleansing Foreman and the Rodent Operator and the Hough Excavator which is stationed at the Laddingford Tip). The vehicles garaged at Coxheath are as follows :-

- 7 refuse collection vehicles (including 1 spare)
- 4 cesspool emptying vehicles (including 1 spare)



## Depot

As reported last year, the facilities for garaging and maintenance are inadequate. However, it has been finally determined that the rebuilding of this Depot is to take place in 1969 and one looks forward to its completion when modern and efficient facilities will be available.

Maintenance of all vehicles is far from satisfactory as we are completely dependent upon a private garage for repairs and it is not always convenient to carry out routine maintenance. It is for this reason that I advocate serious consideration to the subject of the employment of our own fitting/maintenance staff at such time as the new Depot becomes operative.

## Drainage and Sanitation

Extensions to the Staplehurst sewerage system were almost completed during the year. A new aerated sewage plant and sewerage scheme serving the main portion of Chainhurst hamlet has been installed. A joint Maidstone R.D.C. and Hollingbourn R.D.C. scheme involving enlargement of the works and new sewers serving the parishes of Bearsted, Boxley, Detling and Thurnham was completed.





# SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

## HOUSING

|  |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Number of houses inspected   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 135 |
| Number of other visits under Housing Acts  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 95  |
| Number of drains tested  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 61  |
| Number of drainage visits  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 436 |
| Number of visits made in respect of Improvement Grants<br>and Building Regulations | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 884 |

## FOOD AND WATER

|   |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Number of Slaughterhouse and meat inspection visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 264 |
| Number of visits re Water Supplies                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12  |
| Number of visits re Milk and Dairies                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| Number of visits re Food and Drugs Act              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 569 |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

|   |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Number of visits re Infectious Diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 121 |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|

## GENERAL - PUBLIC HEALTH

|   |    |    |    |    |    |       |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Number of visits under Public Health Acts                         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 320   |
| Refuse Disposal and Collection                                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4,272 |
| Accumulations   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 75    |
| Cleansing   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 489   |
| Clean Air Act   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 38    |
| Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 74    |
| Hop Pickers' Camps  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 44    |
| Factories Act   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 25    |
| Shops Act   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 148   |
| Rodent Control  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 152   |
| Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1968                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 184   |
| Miscellaneous   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 138   |
| Diseases of Animals and Waste Food Order Visits                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15    |
| Verminous premises visits   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6     |
| Interviews with Builders, Architects, Owners, etc.                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 295   |
| Collection and delivery of samples to Public Health<br>Laboratory | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 48    |
| Revisits to premises under notice                                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 173   |
| Animal Boarding Establishments Act                                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14    |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act                           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 95    |
| Noise Abatement Act   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10    |
| National Assistance Act   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2     |
| Swimming Pools  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5     |

|       |    |       |
|-------|----|-------|
| Total | .. | 9,201 |
|-------|----|-------|



## GENERAL STATISTICS

### HOUSING

|                          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Informal Notices served  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 51 |
| Statutory Notices served | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | -  |
| Notices completed        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 62 |

### HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS

|   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Walls and ceilings                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Rising and penetrating dampness remedied    |    |    |    | .. | .. | .. | 18 |
| Repairs to external walls                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| Repairs to defective windows and doors      |    |    |    | .. | .. | .. | 19 |
| Chimney stacks repaired                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| General repairs to roofs                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19 |
| Provision for food storage                  |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 41 |
| Repairs to staircases                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8  |
| Repair or renewal of fireplaces             | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 6  |
| Cooking facilities provided and/or repaired | .. |    |    | .. | .. | .. | 7  |
| Repointing to brickwork                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| Repair or replacement of floors             | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 24 |
| Provision of adequate ventilation           |    |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Provision of adequate lighting              | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 6  |
| Enlargement of window areas                 |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6  |
| Provision of fuel storage                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4  |
| Provision of dustbin                        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | -  |
| Decoration                                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | -  |
| Provision of hot water supply               | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 48 |
| Provision of baths and bathrooms            |    |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 38 |
| Provision of wash hand basins               | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 39 |
| Provision of damp proof course              | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 7  |
| Provision of adequate water supply          | .. |    |    | .. | .. | .. | 5  |

### DRAINAGE

|                                |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Provision of septic tanks      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5  |
| Provision of cesspools         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| Repairs to eaves guttering     |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 24 |
| Sinks provided and/or repaired | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 32 |
| Repairs to closets             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2  |
| Provision of inspection covers | .. | .. |    | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| Provision of flush closets     |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 36 |
| Repairs to drains              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7  |
| Provision of new drainage      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 51 |





## HOUSING

|   |       |   |         |       |
|---|-------|---|---------|-------|
| I   | 1 (a) | Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects, (under Public Health or Housing Acts)                 | .. .. . | 135   |
|   | (b)   | Number of inspections made for that purpose   | ..      | 1,114 |
|   | 2 (a) | Number of dwelling-houses, included under sub-section 1 above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | .. .. . | 0     |
|   | (b)   | Number of inspections made for that purpose   |         | 0     |
|   | 3 (a) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation   | .. .. . | 0     |
|   | 4 (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation            | .. ..   | 51    |
|   | II    | Remedy of Defects during the year, without the service of formal notice.  |         |       |
|   | 1 (a) | Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority   | .. .. . | 56    |
| III Action under Statutory Powers during the year.      |       |   |         |       |
| A Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957. |       |   |         |       |
|   | 1     | Number of dwelling-houses in which notices were served requiring repairs  | ..      | 0     |
|   | 2     | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices - a - By Owners   | .. .. . | 7     |
|   |       | b - By Local Authority in default of owners   | ..      | 0     |
| B Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.             |       |   |         |       |
|   | 1     | Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied   | .. .. . | 0     |
|   | 2     | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices - a - By Owners  | .. .. . | 0     |
|   |       | b - By Local Authority in default of owners   | ..      | 0     |





|       |  |    |  |
|-------|--|----|--|
| C     | Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957.   |    |  |
| 1     | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..   | 0  |  |
| 2     | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..  | 0  |  |
| 3     | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. ..   | 0  |  |
| 4     | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement of room having been rendered fit .. .. .          | 6  |  |
| IV    | Housing Act, 1957, Part 4, Overcrowding.   |    |  |
| A (1) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .   | 2  |  |
| (2)   | Number of families dwelling therein ..   | 4  |  |
| (3)   | Number of persons dwelling therein ..  | 14 |  |
| B (1) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. ..   | 3  |  |
| C (1) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. ..   | 2  |  |
| (2)   | Number of persons concerned in such cases .. .. .  | 12 |  |
| D     | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .. .. . | 0  |  |



### Comparison of Summary Figures with 1967

Properties requiring action under the Housing and Public Health Acts were dealt with individually. In instances where disrepair was involved the problem was dealt with on an informal basis.

There has again been an average number of property owners taking advantage of one or other of the improvement grant schemes which has helped to maintain and, indeed, to improve housing conditions within the district.

Improvement grants carried out on properties within the district have resulted in the provision of the following amenities :-

- 37 Ventilated food stores
- 38 Hot water supplies
- 37 Baths and bathrooms
- 38 Wash hand basins
- 37 Water closets

Our activities relating to slum clearance and redevelopment have been virtually non-existent and, therefore, one might consider the improvement of existing premises as a worthwhile general housing policy.

The following details relating to Improvement Grants may well be of interest. 48 applications for Grant were submitted, none being refused. 8 were in respect of Discretionary Grants and the remaining 40 were Standard Grants. A total of £10,623. 11. 1. was paid in respect of completed grant schemes. £3,144 of this sum relates to 9 completed Discretionary Grants and £7,479. 11. 1. to 34 completed Standard Grants.





# IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

## Standard

|  | Owner/Occupiers | Tenanted |
|--|-----------------|----------|
| 1. No. of applications Received        | 23              | 17       |
| " " " Approved                         | 23              | 17       |
| " " " Refused                          | -               | -        |
| 2. No. of dwellings improved           | 25              | 9        |
| 3. Amount paid in Grants .. .. .       | £7,479. 11. 1.  |          |
| 4. Average Grant per house .. .. .     | £219. 19. 8.    |          |
| 5. Amenities provided (a) fixed bath   |                 | 37       |
| (b) shower                             |                 | -        |
| (c) wash hand basin                    |                 | 38       |
| (d) hot water supply (to any fittings) |                 | 38       |
| (e) water closet (1) within dwelling   |                 | 35       |
| (2) accessible from dwelling           |                 | -        |
| (f) food store                         |                 | 37       |

## Discretionary

|                                    | Owner/Occupiers | Tenanted |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1. No. of applications Received    | 6               | 2        |
| " " " Approved                     | 6               | 2        |
| " " " Refused                      | -               | -        |
| 2. No. of dwellings improved       | 5               | 4        |
| 3. Amount paid in Grants .. .. .   | £3,144. 0. 0.   |          |
| 4. Average Grant per house .. .. . | £349. 0. 0.     |          |



### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits made by Inspectors    ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    121

Reports made to M.O.H. on cases of reported infectious  
diseases :-

|                         |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Food Poisoning          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| Sonne Dysentery         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Salmonella Typhi-murium | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2  |

In conjunction with the necessary investigations, further visits were required to the premises concerned and to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston Hall to deliver bacteriological samples.



# FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| Factories with mechanical power   | .. | .. | .. | .. | 80 |
| Factories without mechanical power                                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| Inspections of Factories with mechanical power                          | .. | .. |    |    | 25 |
| Inspections of Factories without mechanical power                       |    | .. |    |    | 0  |
| Inspections of Builders' sites for Sanitary Accommodation               |    |    |    |    | 8  |
| Inspections of closed Factory premises or premises with<br>no employees | .. | .. | .. |    | 0  |
| Factories with mechanical power - Informal Notices served               |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| Factories with mechanical power -<br>Informal Notices completed         |    |    |    |    | 0  |
| Factories without mechanical power -<br>Informal Notices served         |    |    |    |    | 0  |
| Factories without mechanical power -<br>Informal Notices completed      |    |    |    |    | 0  |
| Statutory Notices served  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0  |

It has not been necessary to serve any formal notices under the Factories Act legislation. Minor defects noted were drawn to the occupiers attention on an informal basis and any requirements carried out without the necessity for further action.

A total of 18 visits were made during the year to Outworkers premises which proved satisfactory.





ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968  
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MAIDSTONE  
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises<br>(1)  | Number<br>on<br>Register<br>(2) | Number of          |                           |                                |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  |                                 | Inspections<br>(3) | Written<br>notices<br>(4) | Occupiers<br>prosecuted<br>(5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...                          | 1                               | -                  | -                         | -                              |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....                     | 80                              | 25                 | -                         | -                              |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..... | 8                               | 8                  | -                         | -                              |
| TOTAL  | 89                              | 33                 | -                         | -                              |

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

| Particulars<br>(1)             | Number of cases in which defects were found |                 |   |                             | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted<br>(6) |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
|                                | Found<br>(2)                                | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred<br>To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) | By H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(5) |  |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1)      | -   | -               | -                                       | -                           | -  |
| Overcrowding (S.2)             | -   | -               | -                                       | -                           | -  |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | -   | -               | -                                       | -                           | -  |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4)   | -   | -               | -                                       | -                           | -  |



| Particulars<br><br>(1)  | Number of cases in which defects were found |                 |                                   |                          | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted<br><br>(6) |
|---|---|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
|   | Found<br>(2)                                | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred To H.M. Inspector<br>(4) | By H.M. Inspector<br>(5) |  |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)  | -   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7)   |   |                 |                                   |                          |  |
| (a) Insufficient  | -   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective   | -   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |
| (c) Not separate for sexes  | 1   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | -   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |
| TOTAL   | 1   | -               | -                                 | -                        | -  |

The one case where sanitary accommodation was not separate was in the course of being remedied at the close of the year.





## PART VIII OF THE ACT

## Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

| Nature of work<br>(1)            | Section 133  |  |  | Section 134   |                       |                     |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
|                                  | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)<br>(2) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council<br>(3) | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists<br>(4) | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises<br>(5) | Notices served<br>(6) | Prosecutions<br>(7) |
| Wearing) Making apparel) etc.,   | 3  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| ) Cleaning                       | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| ) and                            | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| ) Washing                        | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| Household linen                  | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| Lace, lace curtains and nets     | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| Curtains and furniture hangings  | 1  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| Furniture and upholstery         |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Electro-plate                    |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| File making                      |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Brass and brass articles         |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Fur pulling                      |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Iron and steel cables and chains |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Iron & Steel Anchors & Grapnels  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Cart gear                        |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Locks, latches and keys          |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Umbrellas, etc.                  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Artificial flowers               |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Nets, other than wire nets       |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Tents                            |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Sacks                            |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Racquet and tennis balls         |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |



PART VIII OF THE ACT (Cont'd.)

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

| Nature of work<br><br>(1)   | Section 133  |  |  | Section 134   |                       |                     |
|---|--|--|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
|   | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)<br>(2) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council<br>(3) | No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists<br>(4) | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises<br>(5) | Notices served<br>(6) | Prosecutions<br>(7) |
| Paper bags  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Brush making  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Pea picking   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Feather sorting   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Stuffed toys  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Basket making   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Chocolates and sweetmeats   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.   | 4  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |
| Textile weaving   |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| Lampshades  |  |  |  |   |                       |                     |
| TOTAL   | 8  | -  | -  | -   | -                     | -                   |





## CARAVAN SITES

| <u>Site</u>                                   | <u>Proprietor or Owner</u>           | <u>Maximum Number<br/>of Caravans</u> |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Enterprise Caravan Site,<br>East Farleigh     | Mr. H. Smart                         | 25                                    |
| Hartridge Farm Caravan Site,<br>East Farleigh | Mr. K.A. and<br>Mrs. M.R.G. Chambers | 110                                   |
| The Retreat,<br>Nettlestead                   | Mrs. P. Lamb and<br>Mr. R.W. Lamb    | 75                                    |
| Slaughterhouse Lane,<br>Staplehurst           | Mrs. G.N. Russell                    | 2                                     |
| Stilebridge,<br>Marden                        | Maidstone R.D.C.                     | 12                                    |

### Caravan Sites for Seasonal Use Only

|   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| Enterprise Caravan Site,<br>East Farleigh     | Mr. H. Smart   | 15  |
| Medway Wharf Site,<br>Nettlestead             | Mr. A.C. Buffery,<br>Medway Wharf Ltd.                         | 10  |
| Twyford Boatyard Site,<br>Yalding             | Mr. D.S. Chuter,<br>102, Blithdale Road,<br>Abbey Wood, S.E.2. | 18  |
| Hampstead Cottage Caravan Park,<br>Yalding    | Mr. C.H. Sparrow   | 120 |
| Riverside Cafe,<br>Twyford Bridge,<br>Yalding | Mr. A.W. Forrest   | 2   |
| The Anchor Inn,<br>Yalding                    | Mr. D. Brenchley and<br>Mrs. M. Brenchley                      | 3   |

### Summary of data

|                                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Number of inspections             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 74 |
| Number of licensed sites          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Applications for licences         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0  |
| Applications for licences refused | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0  |

Routine visits have been made to all registered sites throughout the year. The Maidstone R.D.C. caravan site for travellers at Stilebridge gave some concern during the year and this related to the amount of refuse which appeared on numerous occasions in roadside ditches and woodland adjacent to the site. It has been impossible to prove conclusively that our tenants are responsible for this situation, but the Housing Manager has kept the problem under continuous review.





#### HOP PICKERS' CAMPS

|   |         |                   |
|---|---------|-------------------|
| Total number of Hop Pickers' Camps in use | ..      | 36                |
| Number of huts in use (estimated)         | .. ..   | 420 + 40 caravans |
| Estimated number of pickers               | .. .. . | 900               |
| Number of inspections                     | .. .. . | 44                |

Visits and inspections were made in the normal routine manner of the hop pickers' camps occupied during the season. As in previous years, there was a reduction in the number of pickers employed and there were no occasions when the Council's byelaws were contravened. The visits had to be curtailed due to the floods and also because staff had to be diverted to more urgent work.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT

No complaints were received during the year and routine observations of industrial and commercial premises required no formal action.

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

At the present time there are 7 establishments registered and 14 visits to these premises were made during the year. In particular, before the renewal of any registration, special attention is paid to the conditions under which animals are boarded.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Advice on the handling and storage of foodstuffs continues to be the prime purpose of routine visits and inspections. Once again the standard of hygiene and cleanliness in food premises has been seen to be of a good standard.

The following data is provided in accordance with the Ministry of Health's requirements :-

| Type of Business               | No. | No.fitted to comply with Reg.16 (Provision of wash hand basin) | No.to which Reg.19 applies (Provision of sinks) | No.fitted to comply with Reg.19 (Provision of sinks) | Inspections |
|--------------------------------|-----|--|---|--|-------------|
| Restaurants and Cafes          | 9   | 9  | 9   | 9  | 31          |
| Grocery and General Provisions | 63  | 63   | 52  | 47   | 65          |
| Greengrocery                   | 7   | 7  | 7   | 5  | 7           |
| Sugar Confectionery            | 15  | 15   | 4   | 4  | 17          |
| Bakehouses                     | 3   | 3  | 3   | 3  | 12          |
| Wine & Spirits Off Licences    | 3   | 3  | -   | -  | -           |
| Bakery Shops                   | 4   | 4  | 4   | 4  | 4           |
| Licensed Premises              | 57  | 57   | 57  | 57   | 28          |
| Butchers                       | 14  | 14   | 14  | 14   | 36          |
| Fish Shops (Wet & Fried)       | 3   | 3  | 3   | 3  | 3           |
| Food Warehouses                | 3   | 3  | 3   | 3  | 3           |
| TOTALS                         | 181 | 181  | 155   | 148  | 206         |

### SHOPS ACT

Number of Shops (including Public Houses)      ..      ..      ..      227

During the year 1968, 183 inspections were made of shops within the district to check compliance with the provisions of the Act.





### Contaminated Foodstuff

During the year 8 complaints concerning contaminated foodstuff were brought to the attention of the department. The nature of the complaints were as follows :-

- (1) Glass in milk bottle (2 cases)
- (2) Sausages soiled on skin by extraneous matter
- (3) Fractured milk bottle
- (4) Ice cream delivered in a soft condition
- (5) Corned beef decomposing and affected with mould growth
- (6) Buttered roll - burning sensation in mouth when eating
- (7) Assorted tinned fruit - suspect appearance

In each instance the circumstances and causes were fully investigated and, where considered necessary, reported to the Public Health Committee. No legal proceedings were instigated, but in each case the manufacturer concerned received a warning letter.

### Flooding - 16th to 20th September, 1968

During this emergency it was necessary for the Public Health Inspectors to examine considerable quantities of foodstuffs which had been in contact with the flood waters. Wherever it was safe and prudent salvage was authorized, but it should be noted that a great deal of foodstuffs were, of necessity, condemned and all such articles were then collected by the department's vehicles and disposed of, under supervision, at the Laddingford refuse tip.



## MILK SUPPLIES

|                                   |    |    |    |    |     |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Number of registered distributors | .. | .. | .. | .. | 39  |
| Number of registered dairies      | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |

The function of sampling milk supplies at retailers' premises is the responsibility of the Kent County Council.

Statistics submitted by the Kent County Council, contained elsewhere in this report, show that 21 samples were obtained from retailers within the Maidstone Rural District. Of this total 18 were satisfactory, whilst the 3 unsatisfactory samples were caused, in two cases by contamination with small fragments of plant debris and in the third by mould growth on the inner surface of the bottle. Written cautions were made to the Dairies in each case.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

### Registrations

During the year 5 premises were registered, four of which were businesses in new properties. One of these is a large food wholesaler and distributor employing almost 300 persons, which accounts for the large increase in the figures in Table C. The overall total of registered premises dropped during the year from 100 to 93 and this is mostly because of a tendency by occupiers of small village stores to reduce or dispense with the services of part-time assistants.

### Inspections

No complaints were received during the year and the work of visiting and inspecting premises was of a routine nature. All the premises newly registered during the year received general inspections and revisits were made in 39 other cases to premises already registered. All premises had received during previous years at least one general inspection and, therefore, the majority of inspections were follow-up visits to ensure that contraventions previously noted had been remedied.

Unavoidably, due to staff changes, the total number of visits and general inspections fell during the year.

### Contraventions

No serious contraventions were noted during the year. The matters mostly found to require attention were the maintenance of floor and stair coverings, the lack of a thermometer and the Abstract of the Act.

Co-operation between employers and the department is generally good and the majority are anxious to ensure that their premises comply with the legislation.

### Accidents

10 accidents were reported during the year, none of which were of such a nature as to merit investigation. The accidents did not occur as a result of the condition of the premises or equipment and were mostly attributable to careless actions on the part of employees. None of the injuries sustained were of a serious nature.





| THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY<br>PREMISES ACT, 1963 | TABLE<br>A<br><br>Registrations<br>and general<br>inspections | TOTALS  | 5  | 93  | 44 |
|--|---|---|--|---|----|
|  |   |   |  |   |    |
|  | Offices   |   | -  | 18  | 5  |
|  | Retail shops  |   | 3  | 65  | 33 |
|  | Wholesale shops, warehouses                                   |   | 2  | 6   | 3  |
|  | Catering establishments open<br>to the public, canteens       |   | -  | 4   | 3  |
|  | Fuel storage depots   |   | -  | -   | -  |
|  | (1)   | (2)   | (3)  | (4)   |    |
|  | Class of premises   | Number of premises<br>registered during<br>the year | Total number of<br>registered premises<br>at end of year | Number of registered<br>premises receiving a<br>general inspection<br>during the year |    |

TABLE B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises

| TABLE C<br><br>Analysis of persons<br>employed in registered<br>premises by workplace | Class of workplace<br>(1)                     | Number of persons employed<br>(2) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
|   |   |                                   |
|   | Offices                                       | 177                               |
|   | Retail shops                                  | 215                               |
|   | Wholesale depts., warehouses                  | 205                               |
|   | Catering establishments<br>open to the public | 10                                |
|   | Canteens                                      | 5                                 |
|   | Fuel storage depots                           | -                                 |
|   | Total   | 612                               |
|   | Total Males                                   | 340                               |
|   | Total Females                                 | 272                               |





TABLE D - Exemptions

| Class of premises<br><br>(1)   | No. of exemptions<br>current at<br>31st December<br><br>(2) | No. of exemptions<br>granted or<br>extended during<br>the year<br><br>(3) | No. of applica-<br>tions refused<br>or exemptions<br>withdrawn during<br>the year<br><br>(4) | No. of cases in<br>Cols. (3) and (4)<br>where employees<br>opposed appli-<br>cation<br><br>(5) | Appeals to Court against<br>refusal to grant or extend an<br>exemption or against the<br>withdrawal of an exemption |                    |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|--------------------|
|  |   |   |  |  | No. made<br>(6)   | No. allowed<br>(7) |
| Offices<br>Retail shops<br>Wholesale shops, warehouses<br>Catering establishments open<br>to public, canteens<br>Fuel storage depots     |   | Part 1 - Space (Sec.5(2))   |  |  |   |                    |
| Part II - Temperature (Sec.6)  |   |   |  |  |   |                    |
| Offices<br>Retail shops<br>Wholesale shops, warehouses<br>Catering establishments open<br>to public, canteens<br>Fuel storage depots     |   |   |  |  |   |                    |
| Part III - Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.9)   |   |   |  |  |   |                    |
| Offices<br>Retail shops<br>Wholesale shops, warehouses<br>Catering establishments open<br>to the public, canteens<br>Fuel storage depots |   |   |  |  |   |                    |
| Part IV - Washing Facilities (Sec.10)  |   |   |  |  |   |                    |
| Offices<br>Retail shops<br>Wholesale shops, warehouses<br>Catering establishments open<br>to the public, canteens<br>Fuel storage depots |   |   |  |  |   |                    |



# SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of licensed Slaughterhouses .. .. 2  
 Number of premises cleansed during the year .. .. 2

## MEAT INSPECTION

| <u>Slaughterhouse</u>          |       | <u>No. of Animals<br/>Slaughtered</u> | <u>Per Cent</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| West End, Marden .. ..         | 1,110 | 7½%                                   |                 |
| High Street, Staplehurst .. .. | 391   | 26%                                   |                 |
| Total ..                       | 1,501 | 100%                                  |                 |

| Carcases Inspected<br>and Condemned                            | Cattle<br>Exclud-<br>ing Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs | TOTAL |
|--|-------------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|-------|
| Number killed  | 233                           | -    | 4      | 751                   | 513  | 1,501 |
| Number <u>not</u> inspected                                    | -                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | -     |
| <u>All diseases except<br/>Tuberculosis and<br/>Cysticerci</u> |                               |      |        |                       |      |       |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                                   | -                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | -     |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned       | 30                            | -    | -      | 23                    | 78   | 131   |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u>                                       |                               |      |        |                       |      |       |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                                   | -                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | -     |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned       | -                             | -    | -      | -                     | 7    | 7     |
| <u>Cysticerci</u>  |                               |      |        |                       |      |       |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned       | 2                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | 2     |
| Carcases submitted to<br>refrigeration                         | 1                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | 1     |
| Generalized and totally<br>condemned                           | -                             | -    | -      | -                     | -    | -     |

All carcasses examined have been for the trade of the butchers owning the slaughterhouses. The customary high standard and quality has been maintained and, as in previous years, co-operation between the owners and the department has been on an amicable basis.

Government requirements i.e., 100% inspection of all carcasses slaughtered, has again been achieved without the necessity of involving overtime by the inspectorate.







## MEAT INSPECTION

### Reason for Condemnation

| <u>Reason</u>        | <u>Completely<br/>condemned</u> | <u>Partially<br/>condemned</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Abscesses            | 0                               | 8                              |
| Actinobacillosis     | 0                               | 1                              |
| Arthritis            | 0                               | 2                              |
| Ascaris Lumbricoides | 0                               | 39                             |
| Cirrhosis            | 0                               | 8                              |
| Congestion           | 0                               | 3                              |
| Cysticercus Bovis    | 0                               | 1                              |
| Hydronephrosis       | 0                               | 6                              |
| Liver Fluke          | 0                               | 20                             |
| Nephritis            | 0                               | 2                              |
| Parasitic Infections | 0                               | 12                             |
| Pericarditis         | 0                               | 13                             |
| Peritonitis          | 0                               | 10                             |
| Pleurisy             | 0                               | 11                             |
| Pneumonia            | 0                               | 10                             |
| Tuberculosis         | 0                               | 7                              |

### Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

All registered plants within the area were inspected during the year. One complaint concerning operation was received and, as a result of our investigation and action, the individual concerned discontinued his bad practice which had caused the complaint.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling  
Officers within the MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT  
during the year ended 31st December, 1968

|  | <u>Satis-</u><br><u>factory</u> | <u>Unsatis-</u><br><u>factory</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Milk .. .. .   | 18                              | 3                                 |
| Butter, margarine, lard, cooking fats,<br>cheese (including processed cheese) ..     | 2                               | -                                 |
| Tinned meats, meat, fish, fish and meat<br>pastes .. .. .                            | 7                               | 1                                 |
| Sugar, sugar confectionery, flour confec-<br>tionery, chocolate products, cereals .. | 5                               | 2                                 |
| Tea, coffee, cocoa, beverages, minerals,<br>cordials .. .. .                         | 3                               | -                                 |
| Jams, preserves, honey, jellies .. ..  | 1                               | -                                 |
| Dried fruit, raw fruit, vegetables, tinned<br>fruit and vegetables .. .. .           | 3                               | -                                 |
| Pickles, sauces, vinegar, condiments .. ..   | 1                               | -                                 |
| Drugs, medicines .. .. .   | 6                               | -                                 |
| Beer, wines, spirits .. .. .   | 9                               | -                                 |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .  | 2                               | -                                 |
| Total ..   | <u>57</u>                       | <u>6</u>                          |

Unsatisfactory Samples

Large Sliced Farmhouse Loaf

Affected by mould growths. Written cautions to retailer and manufacturers.

Pasteurised Milk

Mould growth on inner surface of bottle. Written caution to Dairy.

Corned Beef

Small piece of meat discoloured by iron. Manufacturers contacted.

Pasteurised Milk (2 samples)

Milk contained small fragments of plant debris. Written caution to Dairy.

Large White Loaf

Loaf contained three portions of paper probably from flour bag. Written caution to Bakers.



## RODENT CONTROL

### Summary of Inspections and Surveys made under Rodent Control

| <u>Properties other than Sewers</u>   | <u>Type of Property</u> |                     |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
|   | <u>Non-Agricultural</u> | <u>Agricultural</u> |
| 1. Number of properties in district   | 8,378                   | 1,033               |
| 2. (a) Total number of properties<br>(including nearby premises)<br>inspected following notification          | 689                     | 30                  |
| (b) Number infested by (i) Rats   | 515                     | 30                  |
| (ii) Mice   | 91                      | 30                  |
| 3. (a) Total number of properties<br>inspected for rats and/or<br>mice for reasons other<br>than notification | 207                     | 18                  |
| (b) Number infested by (i) Rats   | 126                     | 9                   |
| (ii) Mice   | 61                      | 3                   |

Rodent control during the year involved the treatment of private dwellings, farms and local authority's own premises i.e., refuse tip and sewage disposal works.

The Ministry certificate authorising this authority to dispense with the test baiting of sewers for a 3 year period meant that in the year under review no baiting took place.

The contract system, which some farmers within the area prefer, has been continued and the income from this source has amounted to £94. 10. 0.





Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year, 1968

| Area              | Rate per<br>1,000<br>population | Annual Death-rate<br>per 1,000 population |              |                |              | Rate per 1,000               |                   |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
|                   |                                 | All causes                                | Tuberculosis | Cancer of Lung | Other cancer | Live<br>Births               | Related<br>Births |
|                   | Live births                     |   |              |                |              | Total deaths<br>under 1 year | Stillbirths       |
| England and Wales | 16.9                            | 11.9                                      | 0.03         | 0.59           | 1.72         | 18.0                         | 14.0              |
| Hollingbourn R.D. | 20.88                           | 9.47                                      | 0.05         | 0.50           | 1.16         | 5.33                         | 10.55             |
| Maidstone R.D.    | 23.20                           | 9.92                                      | -            | 0.62           | 1.66         | 13.74                        | 8.51              |
| Malling R.D.      | 21.19                           | 12.69                                     | 0.05         | 0.57           | 1.40         | 11.06                        | 15.91             |
| Maidstone Borough | 18.69                           | 11.27                                     | 0.01         | 0.66           | 1.47         | 18.00                        | 13.72             |
| County of Kent    | 18.6                            | 10.9                                      | 0.02         | 0.60           | 1.75         | 16.0                         | 14.0              |



# GENERAL SUMMARY

|  |               |               |              |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Estimated resident population, 1968    | ..            | ..            | 27,080       |
| Area (in acres)                        | ..            | ..            | 34,487       |
| Density                                | ..            | ..            | 0.785        |
| Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population |               |               |              |
|  | Crude         | ..            | 21.49        |
|  | Corrected     | ..            | 23.20        |
| Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population |               |               |              |
|  | Crude         | ..            | 11.96        |
|  | Corrected     | ..            | 9.92         |
|  | <u>Male</u>   | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| Births                                 | ..            | ..            | 582          |
| Deaths                                 | ..            | ..            | 324          |
| Excess of births over deaths           | 128           | 130           | 258          |
| Tuberculosis death rate -              |               |               |              |
|  | Pulmonary     | ..            | -            |
|  | Non-pulmonary | ..            | -            |
| Cancer death rate per 1,000 population | ..            | 2.28          |              |





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